

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR IMMEDIATE
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TAGS: BEXP, ETRD, ASEAN, PINT

SUBJECT: PACIFIC NORTHWEST COMMISSION RELATIONSHIP WITH
- ASEAN-PORTLAND FORESTRY EQUIPMENT INDUSTRY SHOW,
- MARCH, 1978

REFS: 77STATE 288870

1. PACIFIC NORTHWEST REGIONAL COMMISSION (PNRC) HAS ASKED
FOR ASSISTANCE AND ADVICE ON GUEST SPEAKER FOR ASEAN SES-
SION OF ANNUAL FORESTRY EQUIPMENT INDUSTRY SHOW. TEXT OF
LETTER EUGENE BIRD TO EA/EP FOLLOWS:

2. BEGIN TEXT

WE ARE MOVING FORWARD ON OUR ASEAN LINK PROGRAM, WITH THE
FIRST EFFORT ACTIVITIES AT THE ANNUAL SAWMILL AND PLYWOOD
CLINIC HELD AT PORTLAND, OREGON MARCH 8-10 THIS YEAR. THIS
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IS A PRIVATE SHOW BUT WITH WIDE INDUSTRY PARTICIPATION (UP
TO 1000) AND WITH GOOD REFERENCES, I.E., SENATOR HATFIELD
WILL BE THE FEATURED LUNCHEON SPEAKER MARCH 10. LAST YEAR
A PHILIPPINES SPEAKER REPRESENTED THE INTERNATIONAL SECTOR.

WE WOULD LIKE TO INVITE A SPEAKER FOR MARCH 9 TO ADDRESS
THE 800-1000 WHO WILL ATTEND A LUNCHEON THAT DAY. WE HAVE

CHOSEN DATO HARRIS BIN SALLEH, CHIEF MINISTER OF SABAH,
AS OUR PREFERRED SPEAKER. WE WOULD ISSUE AN OFFICIAL

INVITATION FROM THE GOVERNORS OF THE THREE STATES TO THE
DATO ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION. COULD THE EMBASSY CHECK
TO SEE WHETHER OR NOT HE WOULD ACCEPT SUCH AN INVITATION?
WE WILL HAVE HIM CALLED BY VIRGEL CLARK WHO IS OUR EXPERT
IN FORESTRY AND A FRIEND OF THE DATO. WE THINK THE DATO
WOULD BE WELL RECEIVED AND WE KNOW HE IS A GOOD SPEAKER
AND WOULD HAVE A GOOD DEAL TO SAY ABOUT THE HARDWOOD
INDUSTRY AND ABOUT ASEAN. WE WOULD ARRANGE APPROPRIATE
PRESS COVERAGE (AND PROBABLY CALLS ON THE GOVERNORS, ETC.)

THE FOLLOWING ARE OUR SECOND CHOICES UNLESS YOU HAVE OTHER
NOMINEES: 1) DATO ABDUL RAHMAN YA'KUB OF SARAWAK. 2)
STEPHENS, D.G. OF SABAH FOUNDATION. 3) DATO WAN SIDEK,
STATE SECRETARY OF PAHANG. 4) ENCIK MOHAMMED JABIL DEP.
DIRECTOR GENERAL OF FORESTRY - DEPT. OF MALAYSIA. 5) ENCIK
ABDUL RAZAK BIN ABDUL MAJID D.G. MALAYSIAN TIMBER INDUSTRY
BOARD.

WE WILL OF COURSE PAY THEIR AIR FARE AND ACCOMMODATIONS
WHILE IN THE UNITED STATES. WE WOULD LIKE THE INVITATION
COUCHED IN TERMS THAT MIGHT INSPIRE THE SPEAKER, PARTICU-
LARLY IF HE WERE A CHIEF MINISTER, TO BRING ALONG SOME
OF HIS OWN PERSONS IN FORESTRY.
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SECOND, WE SHOULD LIKE TO HOLD A RECEPTION IN HONOR OF THE
ASEAN COUNTRIES AT THIS CLINIC ON MARCH 7, TUESDAY, AT
WHICH WE WOULD HOPE THE FEATURED SPEAKER COULD BE PRESENT.
THIS IS THE NIGHT BEFORE THE MAIN OPENING OF THE SAWMILL
CLINIC AND ALL INTERNATIONAL VISITORS WOULD BE INVITED TO
ATTEND, INCLUDING ABOUT 20 FROM MEXICO. HOWEVER, THE RECEP-
TION WOULD BE TO HONOR ASEAN VISITORS AND A PANEL DISCUSSION
IS VERY LIKELY TO BE ARRANGED, FOCUSED ON THE HARDWOOD
INDUSTRY AND MARKETS.

WE ARE PREPARED TO FUND UP TO THREE ADDITIONAL VISITORS
FROM THE ASEAN AREA, BUT I SHOULD LIKE TO TIE DOWN THE
CHIEF MINISTER FOR THE MAIN SPEAKER FIRST.

WE WOULD LIKE TO WORK THROUGH THE EMBASSIES ON THIS PROGRAM
IN SO FAR AS INVITATIONS ARE CONCERNED. IF YOU COULD CON-
FIRM TO ME OR TO MR. CLARK THAT K.L. IS CHECKING, WE WILL
COORDINATE HIS CALL TO THE DATO AND MAKE FURTHER PLANS FOR
THE PANEL/RECEPTION. END TEXT.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: ADVICE ON HOW TO RESPOND TO BIRD

LETTER. IF YOU SEE NO POLITICAL OR OTHER OBJECTION TO
INVITING DATUK HARRIS, PLEASE CHECK WHETHER HE WOULD ACCEPT.

IF THERE WOULD BE ANY PROBLEM WITH INVITING HIM, INDICATE
WHICH AMONG THE SECOND CHOICES AND ANY ADDITIONAL NAMES
YOU WOULD RECOMMEND, BOTH AS SPEAKER OR VISITOR AT PNRC
EXPENSE. WE WILL GET BACK TO THE PNRC AND LET YOU KNOW
THEIR PREFERENCE. PNRC IS PREPARED TO TELEPHONE INVITA-
TION TO PROSPECTIVE SPEAKER FROM PNRC OFFICE IN VANCOUVER,
WASHINGTON. DO YOU CONSIDER THAT APPROPRIATE, OR WOULD
YOU RECOMMEND A WRITTEN INVITATION FROM EMBASSY ON BEHALF
OF GOV. EVANS OF IDAHO, CURRENTLY PNRC CO-CHAIRMAN; IF
YOU PREFER LATTER, PNRC WOULD HAVE TO CONTACT GOV. EVANS
BY JAN. 24. CHRISTOPHER
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